



*SUPERIOR COURT OF  
CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SOLANO*

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## Press Release

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### **NEW PRESIDING JUDGE AND ASSISTANT PRESIDING JUDGE ANNOUNCED**

Fairfield, California - The Superior Court of California, County of Solano is pleased to announce the confirmation of the Honorable Robert C. Fracchia as the incoming Presiding Judge of the Court and the election of the Honorable John B. Ellis as the incoming Assistant Presiding Judge of the Court, beginning January 1, 2016.

*Judge E. Bradley Nelson*, current Presiding Judge, said, "Judges Fracchia and Ellis are excellent choices as Presiding Judge and Assistant Presiding Judge. They are smart, conscientious and fair-minded. Each is committed to serving the public and administering justice. Together with our Court Executive Officer Brian Taylor and our Assistant CEO Sharon Hoover, they will make a formidable court management team that I'd stack up against any in the state."

*Judge Robert C. Fracchia*, incoming Presiding Judge, commented, "I am both humbled and honored by the trust my colleagues have placed in me. My predecessor, Judge E. Bradley Nelson, carefully guided our court through an extremely difficult budget cycle. We would not have been so successful in this process without his leadership and the significant dedication and sacrifices our judges and court staff have made on a daily basis. I look forward to meeting this same challenge and to provide a fair and expeditious forum for all the citizens of Solano County."

*Judge Fracchia*, earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Ecology with an emphasis in criminal and juvenile justice from the University of California, Irvine and his Juris Doctorate from the University of California, Davis.

From 1997 to 2005, Judge Fracchia maintained a solo legal practice with an emphasis in criminal law, civil litigation, and personal injury and served as an appointed mediator and arbitrator for the Solano Superior Court. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Fracchia also served as an Administrative Law Judge for the State of California, Office of Administrative Hearings, a Judge Pro Tem for the Northern Solano Municipal Court, a Juvenile Court Referee for the Solano Superior Court and as Deputy Public Defender for the Office of the Solano County Public Defender.

Judge Fracchia was appointed in August 2005 as a Commissioner for the Solano Superior Court and was elevated in July 2008 by Governor Schwarzenegger.

*Judge Ellis*, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Davis, a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from University of California, San Francisco, and his Juris Doctorate from Boston College Law School.

Judge Ellis was an associate with Larson and Burnham from 1993 to 1996. He was a deputy district attorney from 1996 to April 2009 for the Solano County District Attorney's office. From April 2009, he served as a chief deputy district attorney until his appointment to the bench in December 2009 by Governor Schwarzenegger. Judge Ellis is currently the Presiding Judge for the Juvenile Division of the court.